GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2625
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
Welfare of Senior Citizens
Pala Shri Vincent H;Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Government under the Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) for establishing old age homes, day care centres and mobile Medicare units, maintenance of respite care homes, physiotherapy clinics and counselling centres etc. during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases filed in the Maintenance Tribunals under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizen"s Act, 2007 during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the number of Central Government hospitals where geriatric clinic is available and the details of Regional Geriatric Centres having fully functional geriatric department;

(d) the present status of setting up of the National Council of Senior Citizens; and

(e) whether the Government has any specific policy to provide specific welfare measures to elderly women who outnumber the elderly men and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)
(a): This Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme of Older Persons (IPOP) under which grants are given for running and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units etc. The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the quality of life of Older Persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities etc. Implementing agencies eligible for assistance under the Scheme are Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies, Non Governmental Voluntary Organisations, Institutions or Organisations set up by Government as autonomous/subordinate bodies, Government Recognised Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals/Nursing Homes, and Recognised Youth Organisations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sanghathan (NYKS) and in exceptional cases the State Governments / UT administrations. A statement showing the number of projects assisted and funds released during the last three years and current year State- wise is at Annexure-I
(b): Data in this regard is not maintained centrally.

(c): As per information received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Ministry had launched the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) during 2010-11 with a view to provide separate and specialized comprehensive health care to the senior citizens at various levels of state health care delivery system including outreach services. The following provisions have been made to provide geriatric health care under NPHCE:-
(i) Setting up of Geriatric department in identified Regional Geriatric Centres (RGC) with OPD care services and 30 bedded Geriatric ward for providing indoor services. RGCs will also undertake PG Courses in Geriatric for developing Human Resource.
(ii) Setting up of Geriatric units at all District Hospitals that will provide specialist services. A 10 bedded Geriatric Ward will also be set up for providing indoor services.
(iii) Establishment of Rehabilitation unit at all Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Geriatric clinic twice/week.
(iv) Setting up weekly Geriatric clinic by trained medical Officer at Primary Health Centres (PHCs).
(v) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) on healthy life style, home care to the bed ridden and supportive devices for the needy elderly persons at sub-centre level.
A total no. of 227 districts of 32 States/UTs have been approved for implementation under the Programme upto financial year 2015-16. In addition to this, so far 15 identified Medical Institutions have been funded for development of Regional Geriatric Centres (RGCs).
(d): The National Council of Senior Citizens has been notified on 22nd February, 2012 and Non-official members have been nominated vide order dated 8.7.2016.
(e): The Ministry, after due consultation, has prepared a draft policy for senior citizens, which is under finalization. Under the existing Scheme of Integrated Programme of Older Persons (IPOP), all facilities are equally open to elderly women and the benefits under the Programme of Multi Facility Care Centre (MFCC), are specifically provided to Older Widows.